

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the notification that claims 1-6 and 20-23 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over certain claims of U.S. Patent 6261743. The rejection is traversed.

The present application is a divisional application of the cited patent. The priority claim on page 1 of the application has been amended to recite "divisional" rather than "continuation". The cited patent contains method claims, which were restricted from the present claims in paper no. 3 dated April 7, 2003 in the present case. Accordingly, the cited patent is not available to sustain the instant rejection. See Section 804 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

In view thereof, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 5 of U.S. Patent 6410209. The rejection is traversed.

The cited claim 5 does not disclose an acid or thermal acid generator in combination with a photoacid generator as recited in Applicants' claims of the present application. In view thereof, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 8 were provisionally rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over certain claims of U.S. patent application 09/918399. The provisional rejection is traversed.

Based on the above discussions, where it is submitted that all prior rejections are properly withdrawn, it is believed the instant provisional rejection also should be withdrawn. See, Section 804 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, which states in part:

If the "provisional" double patenting rejection in one application is the only rejection remaining in that application, the examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the application to issue as a patent, thereby converting the "provisional" double patenting rejection in the other application(s) into a double patenting rejection at the time the one application issues as a patent.

Withdrawal of the provisional rejection is requested.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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